

E 475  
.53  
.N555  
Copy 1

# REPORT

OF THE

## Gettysburg Battle-Field Commission

OF NEW JERSEY.

CONSTITUTED UNDER AN ACT OF THE LEGISLATURE.

APPROVED APRIL 27th, 1886.

*Dated December 15th, 1887.*

TRENTON, N. J.:  
THE JOHN L. MURPHY PUBLISHING CO., PRINTERS  
1887.







MONUMENT TO THE 13TH NEW JERSEY VOLUNTEERS.

# REPORT

OF THE

## Gettysburg Battle-Field Commission

OF NEW JERSEY.

*CONSTITUTED UNDER AN ACT OF THE LEGISLATURE,*

*APPROVED APRIL 27th, 1886.*

---

*Dated December 15th, 1887.*

---



TRENTON, N. J.:

THE JOHN L. MURPHY PUBLISHING CO., PRINTERS.

1887.

[4.7.5]

53

14555

6-10-19

6







# REPORT.

---

*To His Excellency Robert S. Green, Governor of New Jersey :*

The undersigned, Commissioners appointed pursuant to Chapter 199 of the Laws of 1886, to erect "suitable monuments to mark the positions of the New Jersey regiments upon the battle-field of Gettysburg," respectfully submit to Your Excellency their second report, as follows :

In the report rendered to the Governor, December 7th, 1886, the Commissioners called attention to the fact that there would be required, to properly carry out the act of the Legislature, one brigade monument, ten regimental monuments, and four or five substantial shafts or posts. The State appropriation for this work was \$6,000, of which \$300 had, at the date of our first report, been expended. The Commissioners deemed it proper to intimate that a further appropriation would be necessary to complete the work in a becoming manner.

His Excellency Governor Abbett, in his last annual message, very warmly seconded this suggestion of the Commissioners, and Your Excellency, also, in the inaugural address, gave further approval of the work of rearing monuments. The Legislature very promptly added the sum of \$9,450 to the previous appropriation, making a total of \$15,450.

Early in the present year the Veteran Association of the Thirteenth Regiment collected, by private donations, \$1,000, and placed it in the hands of the Commissioners, with the request that it be expended upon the monument of their regiment.

The Commissioners accordingly contracted for a monument, to cost \$2,000, and the same was completed, paid for, and dedicated on the 1st day of July last.

It stands in an oak grove, on the westerly bank of Rock creek, at a point very near the extreme right of the Union line of battle of July 2d and 3d. It is to the south of the now historic Spangler's

Spring, and of the little stream issuing from it, and is but a short distance north of the Baltimore pike. It marks the position of the regiment held on the night of July 2d and on July 3d.

The foundation of the monument is a pier of solid rubble masonry ten feet in depth, laid in cement.

The monument consists of two massive stones, a base weighing about eight tons and a die weighing about thirteen tons. Upon the front of the die is cut in relief the life-size figure of a kneeling soldier in the act of firing.

We have appended to this report a copy of the inscription upon the monument, and some account of the dedicatory exercises. Much interest in the event of the dedication was developed by the survivors of the Thirteenth Regiment, and they and their friends to the number of about one hundred and fifty attended the exercises at Gettysburg. Your Excellency having graciously accepted an invitation to be present, also attended, together with Your Excellency's personal staff, and General Stryker, Adjutant-General of New Jersey. The kindly interest manifested, and the part taken by Your Excellency in the dedication, added, in a marked degree, to the pleasure of the veterans, and lightened not a little the labors of the Commission.

Contracts have recently been made for the erection of monuments to the "First New Jersey Brigade," and the Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Eleventh and Twelfth Regiments of Infantry, the First Cavalry, and Batteries A and B of the First Artillery. All are to be completed on or before the 15th of June, 1888.

The position of Battery A, which had not been located at the date of the first report, has been definitely fixed, thus completing all the locations. The Commissioners designated and called to their aid in making this location, Frederick Heuschkel, a survivor of the Battery, who was present at the battle of Gettysburg.

Some delay has occurred in acquiring the land for the positions, and in two or three cases negotiations are not yet satisfactorily terminated; but the Commissioners have no doubt that all the positions will be secured in time for the erection of the monuments. The foundations for the monuments to the Fifth, Sixth, Eighth and Eleventh Regiments of Infantry, and the First Cavalry, have already been laid.

Imitating the example of the Thirteenth Regiment, the Veteran Associations of some of the regiments have raised funds to be expended upon their monuments, and have requested the Commissioners to use the same to supplement the State appropriation.

The Commissioners have also received from a number of well-known citizens private donations towards the monuments, some of them to be used for certain specified monuments, and others given without restriction. These gifts amount to about \$2,700.

Of the entire appropriation of \$15,450, the Commissioners had hoped to spend \$15,000 upon the monuments, and to confine the expenses of locating the positions and all other expenses to \$450. It has been found, however, that the expenses will, under the most frugal management, necessarily exceed \$450. The donations received have accordingly proved most timely and useful. They will enable the Commissioners to expend the entire \$15,000 upon the monuments, and to add a considerable sum thereto.

The result will be more massive and ornamental monuments than could otherwise have been erected.

The Commissioners very carefully considered the question of what stone should be used in the monuments, and after investigation of the subject, decided that nothing but granite should be employed.

The monuments will be of the Quincy, Westerly, Hallowell, Barre, Oak Hill and Gettysburg granites, all of which are believed to be thoroughly suitable to the purpose.

There has been expended during the year \$1,150 of the appropriation, leaving unexpended \$14,000, all of which will be required before the 15th day of June next.

The Commission confidently expect that the monuments now in course of erection (ten in number) will be completed before July 1st, 1888, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the battle, but they believe it would be inadvisable to attempt to conduct any dedicatory exercises at Gettysburg at that time. Experience has shown that upon every anniversary day the numbers of visitors to the village of Gettysburg and to the battle-field are so great as to occasion overcrowding and discomfort.

The Commission, therefore, think that a day in the latter part of July or in August should be selected for the dedication of the New Jersey monuments.

It has been suggested that it would be fitting to invite to the services all New Jersey veteran soldiers, of whatever commands, whether they were present at the battle of Gettysburg or not, and that the erection of the monuments should be made the occasion of a grand reunion of the soldiers; and that the State should recognize the occasion by

sending a portion of the National Guard, or in some other becoming manner.

The Commissioners approve these suggestions, and lay them before Your Excellency for such action or recommendation to the Legislature as Your Excellency may deem proper.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES N. DUFFY,  
GOTTFRIED KRUEGER,  
WILLIAM H. CORBIN.

December 15th, 1887.

---

---

## APPENDIX.

---

---



## APPENDIX.

### DEDICATION OF THE MONUMENT TO THE THIRTEENTH NEW JERSEY VOLUNTEERS.

---

The dedication took place in McAllister's woods, at the place where the monument stands, on July 1st, 1887, at ten o'clock.

Colonel James N. Duffy, President of the Gettysburg Battle-Field Commission of New Jersey, called the assembly to order and addressed them as follows :

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN—I have the honor, as Chairman of the Gettysburg Battle-Field Commission of New Jersey, of calling this assembly to order and of announcing its purpose. Charged by our State with the duty of erecting monuments to mark the positions occupied by her citizens in the battle fought on this field, we are now about to present to you for dedication, in fulfillment of that duty, in so far as it relates to the organization known, and forever to be known in her history and in the military records of the United States of America, as the Thirteenth Regiment, New Jersey Volunteers, Infantry. We present it as the testimony of the patriotic, loyal and grateful State of New Jersey to the patriotism, loyalty and valor of her citizens.

Music by the band followed, and Colonel Duffy then called upon the Rev. E. Livingston Allen, a former member of the Color Guard of the Thirteenth, who invoked the blessing of the Almighty.

Mrs. W. S. Cannon, by request, sang "The Star Spangled Banner" in a voice full of emotion and power, which added to the scene an impressiveness and fervor which stirred every heart.

At the close of the singing, Colonel James N. Duffy and William H. Corbin, the President and Secretary of the State Commission, removed the flags covering the monument. As soon as the monument was unveiled Colonel Duffy introduced the Governor of New Jersey in the following words :



LADIES AND GENTLEMEN—I have the honor of introducing the distinguished Governor of our State, Robert S. Green, who will address the survivors of the Thirteenth Regiment.

GOVERNOR GREEN'S ADDRESS.

VETERNS OF THE THIRTEENTH REGIMENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN—The State, the survivors of the Regiment, and their friends, have erected this enduring monument to the memory of those who have gone to their last resting-place. It is no disparagement to the other regiments which New Jersey sent to the field to say that in all qualities of soldierly discipline, of untiring endurance, of conspicuous bravery, the Thirteenth New Jersey stood in the front rank of those grand organizations which formed the armies of the East and West. [Applause.]

Mustered into service in Camp Frelinghuysen in the summer, after a short time spent in camp you were hurriedly sent to join the Army of the Potomac at that critical moment of the country's history, when its own—our own—McClellan, had again been called to its head, at Antietam. Although that was the first time the regiment was under fire, so nobly did it conduct itself in that fight that it called forth the encomiums of General Gordon in his report of the battle: "And although for the first time under fire they fought like veterans, shoulder to shoulder with those who had borne the brunt of battle in the Peninsula, in the Shenandoah Valley, and from Front Royal to the Rapidan." Again, at Chancellorsville, you withstood the impetuous dash and charge of Stonewall Jackson's division. Here at Gettysburg you were hurried to the scene, and the tablet upon that monument marks and records, and will hand down to history, the part that you took in this conflict.

Bidding farewell to the Army of the Potomac you were hurried to the West, and there you took part in the battles of Resaca, Cassville, Dallas, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta, in the March to the Sea, Buffalo Creek, the fight at Savannah, the campaign through the Carolinas; and in the last battles of the war, where again you served under your gallant commander who is here with you to-day, General Slocum, that called forth these words of praise from your brigade commander, that "the whole army owed you thanks, for you had saved it,"—in three almost resistless charges you had broken and driven back the columns of the enemy.

Such is the grand record of the Thirteenth. You came back to the State which you had honored and which had sent you forth to the field of battle. You came back with your work well done. You came back with the principle for which you had started established, for this was a war of principle; it was a war of devotion to the country and for the perpetuity of the Union. The end was



accomplished, armed rebellion had been put down, peace was again restored and the integrity of the Union was established forever. [Applause.]

These monuments erected are not only mementoes of the valor and bravery of those who fell. It is well that here, upon this memorial field dotted all over among these former scenes of carnage and of blood, these stones and tablets should be erected, not only for the purpose of recording the part which the soldier took in the battle, but for the other purpose, that the lesson of the war must never be forgotten. They will be here, in the grand old State of Pennsylvania, when you and we who are contemporaries of the war have passed away—and the veterans are now going fast, fast within the vale. Within a short time Grant, McClellan and Hancock have been gathered to their fathers. In a little while you and we and all of us who were then alive and realized the dangers of the war will have gone, and these monuments will show to our children and to those who come after us how much danger there was to the unity of this country, for with all the force, and courage, and discipline of these States armed disunion came thus far within our borders. Let these monuments teach the lesson of that war, and so long as they do so teach, so long as these dead sentinels keep their watch and ward, so long will the integrity of the Union be established and never again will the supremacy of the Government under the Constitution be assailed. [Applause.]

COL. DUFFY.—I now have the pleasure of introducing Hon. William H. Corbin, Secretary of the Gettysburg Battle-Field Commission, who will make the official presentation of this monument to your Veteran Association.

#### MR. CORBIN'S PRESENTATION.

VETERANS OF THE THIRTEENTH REGIMENT—The State of New Jersey has erected this monument for a two-fold purpose:

First, to aid in the effort to preserve the history of this famous field; secondly and chiefly, to place in the sight of all men a memorial of the gratitude and affection which the State bears towards her heroic volunteer soldiers.

It is proper at this point that the following facts be stated:

The State, by legislative appropriation, provided the necessary funds for securing the positions held on this field by New Jersey troops, and for erecting and preserving perpetually, monuments to all the regiments and batteries engaged.

Three Commissioners were appointed to carry out the enactment. Soon after their appointment, several survivors of the Thirteenth

Regiment expressed a desire to donate something to the fund so set apart for their regiment as a tribute to the memory of their fallen comrades.

The Commission readily assented to this. The result was that not only the survivors of the regiment offered their gifts, but many citizens, being townsmen and neighbors of the men of the Thirteenth, sent in free-will offerings which were added to the others, until there was thus collected the sum of one thousand dollars, a sum equal to the State appropriation for the monument.

And so it is that we present to you to-day a work modeled and fashioned not alone by the decree of a generous and grateful Commonwealth, but a work embellished by the willing hands of neighbors and friends, and finished and made beautiful by the loving touch of comrades in battle.

To give this stone value as an item in the history of the great battle it was essential that it be located upon the exact position occupied by the line; that every statement upon it be absolute truth; that it be built not as a pretty toy to please our eyes to-day, but that it be as a mighty immovable rock, which shall defy the storms of the centuries, and remain a witness to unnumbered ages to come.

To secure these ends no pains have been spared and no effort omitted. The foundations of this monument are laid deep down in the earth; the most excellent methods of construction have been followed. The materials used are the best that experience can suggest or scientific research approve. The monument is precisely in the line of the works occupied by the Thirteenth New Jersey Volunteer Infantry and it stands on the spot where the colors of that regiment stood on July 3d, 1863. The scene so beautifully carved by the sculptor upon this stone is not merely a conceit of the artist; it tells a part of the story of the battle. What is shown here is very fact. Look at this picture: thus the men of the Thirteenth fought here. Observe this soldier cut in stone; precisely so were the men of New Jersey clad and accoutred at Gettysburg. This rifle, poised for its fatal work, is a perfect counterfeit of the rifles used with such deadly effect in this place.

The words cut on this granite are a simple recital of the truth, gleaned with much care, verified with great painstaking and established beyond doubt. Disputed facts have been omitted. Doubtful assertions have not been made. It may be, nay, it must be, that much has been omitted that might be truthfully told.

All that has been said has the sanction of official record and of living witnesses.

The history of this field has been made; we cannot add to, nor can we abate anything of its glory. We are making up the book of that history for future generations the more easily to read. If in the little page of it here inserted to-day we have made a faithful record, we

may rejoice that we have even that humble part in the mighty struggle wherein the fate of our country was decided and salvation assured.

I have said this monument has a two-fold significance. As a guide-post on this field it is well. As a reminder that the soil whereon it stands is sacred, blood-bought ground, it is praiseworthy. But it has a deeper meaning. It means that he who offers up his home, his peace, his comfort and his life for his country shall be held in everlasting remembrance and his name honored throughout all generations. It means that the State will see to it that the memory of the brave shall not decay, and that men shall not lack perpetual witnesses to the patriotism of their fathers. This monument means that we revere the memory of the fallen of the Thirteenth New Jersey Volunteers, and that we respect and honor their comrades who still survive. We remember their services and we do not forget their sufferings. In the darkest hour of war they willingly and ungrudgingly left their homes, their farms, their shops and their desks and hurried to the conflict. While they were still untrained and unused even to the parades and forms of war, they were, within one short month from the time of their enlistment, plunged into the bloody and awful battle of Antietam. From that day forth for three long years their daily lot was to march, to fight, to hunger and to suffer. They forded rivers, they toiled painfully along rough roads under a broiling sun, they fainted beneath the burdens too heavy to bear, they slept amidst cold and frost, they were wounded, mutilated, imprisoned, tormented, killed.

They endured with fortitude, they fought with courage, they obeyed with cheerfulness.

Veterans of the Thirteenth, let not the memory of your past sufferings nor the weakness of advancing years depress your brave hearts. Believe not for a moment that your sorrows have been in vain or that your battles have been forgotten. Be assured that the flight of years shall but serve to bring to a clearer light your courage and your patriotism. Comfort your declining years with the just reflection that the unselfish sacrifice of the strength of your youth was made, by the blessing of Almighty God, an instrument for the salvation of your country and the establishment of liberty, justice and peace.

The Battle-Field Commission of New Jersey have now the honor, in the name of the State, to deliver to you this monument, to be by you delivered to the Gettysburg Battle-Field Memorial Association, who have engaged, with the State of New Jersey, that it shall be forever unmolested, cared for and maintained.

May this stone stand till oppression shall cease and true liberty become the possession of every citizen of this republic. May it be spared from the destroying hand of malice and treason. May it never suffer from indifference and neglect. May it withstand the ravages of time until wars shall cease in the earth, until hatred and envy, murder and strife, shall be at an end; until every man shall love his

neighbor as himself and the kingdoms of this world become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ.

Captain Matthews announced that, owing to the death of the father of General F. H. Harris, the President of the Association, he was, to the regret of all, unable to be present, and introduced Dr. J. J. H. Love, Surgeon of the Thirteenth Regiment, who would read General Harris' address :

#### PRESIDENT HARRIS' ADDRESS.

*Colonel Duffy, President of the Battle-Field Commission of New Jersey :*

SIR—As the representative of the Veteran Association of the Thirteenth Regiment, New Jersey Volunteers, I hereby accept, for the time being, the monument which has just been unveiled by your Commission.

It has been erected by the joint contributions of the State of New Jersey and of this Association. On behalf of the Association I desire to thank the people of the State for this exhibition of affection and gratitude toward her sons who participated in the trials, dangers and hardships of the soldier's life, and present to the *Commission* representing them *our* thanks for the energy and good taste displayed in the construction of this beautiful and appropriate monument.

General Harris then addressed his comrades-in-arms, recounting in a most interesting manner their experiences, and making eloquent and touching reference to the fallen. The paper is too long for insertion here in full. It closes as follows :

Amid these hallowed surroundings, as we dedicate this monument, let us pledge each other to dedicate ourselves anew to our country. Let us swear ever to maintain this glorious Union, that her foes shall be our foes, her friends our friends, and that her interests shall always be dear to our hearts ; and, as the nation moves grandly forward to its final destiny, may we always remember that its liberties were saved at Gettysburg.

*To the Gettysburg Battle-Field Memorial Association :*

GENTLEMEN—It gives me great pleasure, as the representative of the Veteran Association of the Thirteenth Regiment, New Jersey Volunteers, to transfer to your care this monument which has just been unveiled, believing that your Association will, for all coming



time, care for and protect the same, and that it shall always stand as a memento of the valor and sufferings of those loyal men who fought to perpetuate the liberties of our country.

In response, John M. Krauth, Secretary of the Gettysburg Battle-Field Memorial Association, accepted the monument as follows :

*Gentlemen of the New Jersey Commission :*

My words to you to-day shall be brief, but I know that they shall be sincere and from the heart. My time and my thoughts for the past two or three days have been so thoroughly absorbed with work which is entirely divergent from an assembly such as this, that I feel that I cannot discharge the duty assigned me here to-day as it should be done ; but, however feeble and halting or hesitating my words shall be, we realize the fact that the association which I have the honor to represent here to-day realizes that it would be greatly indecorous and highly improper if we did not in some way recognize the distinguished honor which you pay us by being here to-day. We have listened with great pleasure to the exercises of the morning, and with especial interest to the grand and thrilling address of your Governor ; and I desire to say here, on behalf of the Association, that we thank you and your prosperous and patriotic State for the munificent appropriation it has made to the Gettysburg Battle-Field Association for the preservation, perpetuation and maintenance of this great battle-field, and to congratulate the veterans of this regiment that they have been enabled to erect such a handsome, beautiful and appropriate monument. I can only say, on behalf of the Memorial Association, that they are assuming not only a privileged but a sacred trust, and the highest duty that could be imposed upon them is to pledge themselves here to-day to care for, to protect and to guard this monument. It shall be a loving duty for us to say that no hand of the vandal or the spoiler shall ever molest it, and we shall transmit it to our successors in office, and trust that they shall transmit it to their successors, until it will be handed down to the remotest generations of posterity. [Applause.]

Now, in saying this, I do not know that I can say anything more but repeat the assurance that it shall stand here for time and ages yet to come as a perpetual and enduring memorial to the sacrifices, heroism, gallantry and martyrdom of the men of the Thirteenth New Jersey Volunteer Infantry.

Three cheers were given at the close of Mr. Krauth's remarks, for the Gettysburg Battle-Field Memorial Association.

Adjutant-General Stryker was next introduced by Captain Matthews and spoke as follows :

COMRADES—It gives me great pleasure, my comrades, to meet to-day the veterans of one of New Jersey's regiments on this most historic battle-field.

Six weeks ago I passed over the fields of Spottsylvania and the Wilderness, pushed my way through vast cedar tracts, stood on the historic grounds of Salem Church, entered the famous McCoyle house, tramped along the line of the Confederate rifle-pits, stood on the spot where the brave Sedgwick fell, leaned over the worm fence at the Bloody Angle at Spottsylvania, saw where the brave New Jersey troops charged on Ewell's forces again and again on those eventful days. The stillness of an almost deserted country reigned over this desolate land, but it was not hard to realize that over these fields vast bodies of veterans had lain hidden in the brushwood, and, jumping up, had attacked each other boldly. The mementoes of the war were to be seen on every side. I came away from this field impressed, if it were possible for one who had been a participant in the scenes of bloody carnage, impressed more and more with the valor of a soldiery who could, day after day, fight over such a desolate country for the honor of the flag and for the unity of the Republic.

To-day I shall stand with you opposite the stone wall where the valorous Pickett charged on Hancock's Union line; I shall clamber up with you on Round Top and wander around among the boulders in Devil's Den; and we are here on this spot on Rock creek where the brave Jerseymen with their Massachusetts brethren resisted the foe.

Memories, no doubt, crowd upon you to-day of the fighting on the Hagerstown road near the Dunker church, where your own brave Captain Irish fell; and it needs not, after his Excellency's remarks, for me to speak of Chancellorsville and the March to the Sea, but there was one fight he omitted, the fight at Kenesaw Mountain, which you can all remember, where young Lieutenant Ryerson, of the very best fighting blood of New Jersey, fell mortally wounded.

The sweet British poet Cowper, in one of his most beautiful stanzas, seems to depict the work in which you are engaged to-day. I trust I may be able to repeat it:

"Patriots have toiled, and in their country's cause bled nobly;  
And their deeds, as they deserve, receive proud recompense.  
The historic muse, proud of her treasure, marches with it down to latest times,  
And sculpture, in her turn, gives bond in stone, and everduring praise to guard it  
and immortalize the trust."

New Jersey has given bond in stone, and sculpture will to-day begin the trust which shall immortalize to latest times the services of those who bled nobly, for those who died heroically all through the civil war, under the starry banner of the Thirteenth Jersey. [Applause.]

Captain Matthews next introduced the orator of the day, General Henry W. Slocum.

The oration of General Slocum was one of great interest. It abounded in reminiscences of the army and particularly of the Twelfth Corps. It was listened to throughout by the large audience present with evident satisfaction and delight.

The exercises closed with a medley of national airs.

INSCRIPTION ON MONUMENT TO THE THIRTEENTH NEW JERSEY  
VOLUNTEERS.

13TH REGIMENT, N. J. VOLUNTEERS,  
3D BRIGADE, 1ST DIVISION, 12TH CORPS.

---

Thirteenth Regiment, N. J. Volunteers, reached this battle-field 5 P. M., July 1, 1863, and with the brigade went into position on the north side of Wolf Hill. During the night occupied a position in support of Battery M, First N. Y. Artillery. July 2, in morning, held position near Culp's Hill; in afternoon marched to relief of Third Corps near Round Top; at night returned to right of the army. July 3 occupied position marked by this monument, supporting Second Massachusetts and Twenty-seventh Indiana in their charge on Confederate flank. In the evening moved to extreme right to support Gregg's Cavalry.

Killed and mortally wounded, 2; wounded, 19.

Mustered in August 25, 1862. Discharged June 8, 1865.

## ENGAGEMENTS :

Antietam, 1862.	Nancy's Creek, 1864.
Chancellorsville, 1863.	Peach Tree Creek, 1864.
Gettysburg, 1863.	Siege of Atlanta, 1864.
Resaca, 1864.	March to the Sea, 1864.
Cassville, 1864.	Siege of Savannah, 1864.
Dallas, 1864.	Averysboro, 1865.
Culp's Farm, 1864.	Bentonville, 1865.

---

Total losses during the war: Killed or Died of Wounds, 75. Died of Disease and in Prison, 43. Wounded, 244. Total, 362.





LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 013 702 116 A

